

UAV MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025, 9 AM - 11 AM
VIA ZOOM VIDEOTELECONFERENCING – 29 participants

CALL TO ORDER: 9:04 AM by UAV Chair Travis Burns followed by Invocation by Chaplain Lea Seago, and Pledge of Allegiance by Vice Chair Hohman; Chair Burns welcomed Everyone to the meeting!

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 4th, 2025 Membership Meeting – Secretary Carol Culbertson
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Motion to accept the Minutes as distributed made by Secretary Culbertson, and seconded by IPC/Immediate Past Chair Gene Crego. Motion carried.

2. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Jerry Bernard reported the following:

October bank statement: Beginning balance \$110,390.90, Ending balance \$112,607.25.

3. Sickness and Distress - Chair Burns

Eldora Engebretson, AVHOF 2002

Eldora Engebretson could use a few cards due to her extended recovery from her medical issues. Her address is: 9942 Mohawk Lane, Peoria, AZ 85382.

Sue Crego, wife of Gene Crego, could use some love and support.
Cards and letters may be sent to Sue at: 2357 W Naranja Ave,
Mesa, AZ 85202

George Cushing is recovering at home from a stroke.
Cards and letters may be sent to George at
20089 N. Pinewish Court,
Surprise, AZ 85374-4625

4. Reports

A. VA Medical Center Phoenix – Elijah Ditter, Acting Medical Center Director

See attached Report

B. VA Medical Center Tucson – Maria Nguyen, Associate Director

See attached Report

C. VA Medical Center Prescott – Susan Yu, Associate Director

See attached Report

**D. Arizona Dept of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – John F. Scott II,
Director**

UAV MEETING – SATURDAY, November 1

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ADVS

Changes Coming to ADVS

- **We've moved! After a good stint at our current headquarters on 3rd Street, ADVS has officially moved to a new home. Our Public and Intergovernmental Affairs department is located in our Arizona State Veteran Home-Phoenix while the rest of the agency is located at the old DES building near Wesley Bolin Park.**

Arizona State Veteran Homes

- **ASVH-Phoenix just underwent some renovations to the home thanks to the Home Depot Foundation.**
 - o **This week, more than 700 volunteers from across the country came to the home to complete some much needed home improvement projects such as: painting, fixing up the garden, building a gazebo, redoing the day rooms and creating a meditation room for our residents.**
- **Flagstaff Opening**
 - o **We are pleased to welcome our first resident into our Flagstaff home this week! We officially opened our doors on Halloween with our first resident.**
 - o **Our Grand Opening celebration will be held on November 11 at the facility and it is open to the public.**
 - ☐ **The celebration will take place from 1PM-4PM. Governor Katie Hobbs will be in attendance and speaking at the ceremony.**
 - ☐ **The ceremony will be followed by tours of the facility.**
 - ☐ **By that time, we expect to have at least six residents residing in the home**

Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries

- **Wreaths Across America**

- o **Wreath sponsorships for this December's ceremonies are open!**
- o **When you sponsor – the money goes towards providing a beautiful live wreath for our cemeteries**
- o **One wreath sponsorship is just - \$17**
- o **National Wreaths Across America Day is Saturday, December 14th**
- **SAVMC in Sierra Vista needs 2,481 wreaths**
- **AVMC-Marana needs 1,288 wreaths**
- **AVMC-Camp Navajo needs 143 wreaths**
- o **To sponsor a wreath visit wreathsacrossamerica.org**
- E. **Arizona Coalition for Military Families/Be Connected Program – Director Thomas Winkel**

See attached ACMF Slides

F. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS – Chair Burns

Next UAV Membership Meeting: Saturday, December 6th, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM via Zoom technology.

GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS – Chair Burns

1. David Lucier reported he will be working on a bill regarding Arizona Veterans Benefits; he stated that on an annual basis, Arizona veterans bring \$65 million dollars of revenue to the Arizona economy.
E: davidflucier@gmail.com

2. Carl Forkner reported that 100 veterans are needed for an upcoming study. E: drclarkforkner@gmail.com

3. Save the Date Friday, May 1st, 2026: PAL/Patriotic Awards Luncheon
Reception: 11 AM
Lunch and Program: 12 Noon to 2:30 PM
DoubleTree by Hilton Phoenix-Tempe, 2100 S Priest Drive, Tempe AZ
Awards to be presented:
Copper Star
Copper Shield
Copper Eagle
Copper Sword

Outstanding VA Medical Center Employee Recognition
Copper Lamp of Knowledge Veteran and Student Scholarships
Website: www.avhof.org

Benediction – Chaplain Seago

Closing Salute to the Flag – Chair Burns

Adjournment: 10:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Carol Culbertson

Secretary, UAV

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